



The first definitive of the year, the Conestoga Wagon Transportation coil, will be issued Feb. 29 in Conestoga Pa.

The RPA MEETS SECOND & FOURTH THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH
AT ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, VICK B & EAST AVE.



For further information contact the Rochester Philatelic Assoc., Inc.
P.O. Box 10206, Brighton Station, Rochester, NY 14610

MARCH & APRIL 1988

25-cent stamp is on its way

3-penny increase tops list of rate proposals

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Mailing a letter will cost 3 cents more under the sweeping series of changes recommended yesterday by the independent Postal Rate Commission.

It means a stamp for a letter to Aunt Maude will go from 22 cents to 25 cents, which takes about the same bite from the average wallet as it did in 1932.

Adjusted for inflation, the 3-cent postage rate introduced in 1932 would amount to 25.5 cents today.

A special, non-denominated "E" stamp featuring a space-based image of Earth has been prepared for use when the new rates take effect.

The complex series of rate proposals now goes to the board of governors of the Postal Service, which requested rate hikes

TURN TO PAGE 2



Canada will honor four men who explored western Canada from 1754-1861 on this block of four to be released March 17. The explorers are Anthony Henday, George Vancouver, Simon Fraser and John Palliser.

RPA MEETINGS

MARCH 10 "Happy Birthday RPA", 75 years—old!!! The evening is very diverse, the traditional "ONE FRAME EXHIBIT" contest, special RPA Birthday Cover & Cancel, pre ROPEX show info, Birthday Party, & a silent auction. The "ONE FRAME EXHIBIT" contest is open to any RPA member in good standing and is limited to a total of 16 pages (one frame). The theme of this contest can be anything you want to exhibit. The winner gets one frame at ROPEX'88 free.....The silent auction is limited to five lots per member and CASH ONLY! Everything starts at 8:00pm.

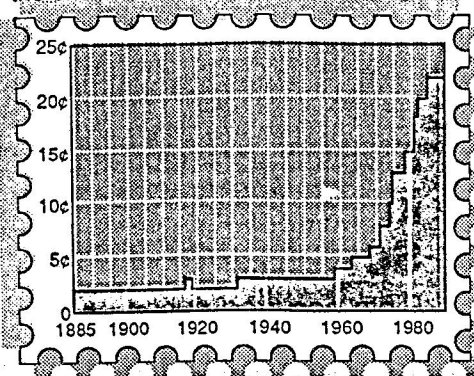
MARCH 24 ROPEX '88 National Stamp Show. Thursday afternoon & evening is ROPEX set-up time and we need as many RPA members that can help. There is no heavy set-up involved, just the placement of exhibit pages into the frames and small odd jobs. Beverages and snacks will be available. Also the Hospitality Table needs people to sign up to help man RPA's table & sales, very simple—but very important, after all this is just about the only time the public learns & see the RPA in action. First impressions are important! Plan to HELP, see you Thursday afternoon and/or evening March 24th at the Downtown Holiday Inn on East Main St. at the River, parking available at the Hotel...Questions? Phone Rick Kase after 6:00pm 381-1654.

MARCH 25, 26, 27 - ROPEX '88
DOWNTOWN HOLIDAY INN
FRI 10-7, SAT 10-6, SUN 10-5

TURN TO PAGE 3

U.S. postal rates since 1885

The current first-class standard based on one ounce was started in 1885. Here are the one-ounce rates since then:



Foreign postage

U.S. postage rates remain among the lowest in the industrialized world. Here are the rates, in U.S. funds, for mailing a first-class letter in other countries.

Italy	48.5¢
West Germany	47.6¢
Japan	46.9¢
Austria	42.3¢
Norway	42.2¢
Netherlands	39.8¢
France	38.8¢
Belgium	37.1¢
Switzerland	36.8¢
Sweden	36.5¢
United Kingdom	31.8¢
Canada	28.9¢
Australia	26.4¢

FROM PAGE 1

10 months ago. The new rates could be ordered into effect within 10 days to two weeks, with the governors likely to consider the matter next week.

Overall, first-class rates would increase 14.7 percent, while third-class rates for mail that is mostly advertising and is widely termed "junk mail" would increase 25 percent.

The agency also suggested:

□ A "courtesy mail discount" using special envelopes and available to consumers who don't ordinarily get a break on bulk mail.

□ A 2-cent cut in the current 7-cent minimum cost for prepaid business reply envelopes.

□ A penny increase — one penny less than requested — in the price of a post card — from 14 cents to 15 cents.



Knute Rockne is honored on this stamp, which will be issued March 9 at the University of Notre Dame. President Reagan will be the FD ceremony's featured speaker.

New Washington variety

A major discovery has been made on an apparently new printing of the United States service-inscribed 18¢ Washington coil stamp.

The new printing is on a diagonally ribbed dry gum paper and is tagged.

The original printings of the service-inscribed stamp had shiny gum and were not tagged.

At first glance, the paper of the new variety somewhat resembles the so-called type I intaglio paper used for many of the early Transportation coils.

However, the Washington stamp was printed on gravure rather than intaglio paper.

While examining a copy of this stamp, a Linn's staffer discovered that although service-inscribed (precanceled), these stamps are lightly block-tagged, a situation that should not exist.

The discovery of this double variety places it as the first tagged, precanceled coil stamp produced by the U.S. government.

There were two tagged, precanceled sheet stamps that were produced during the 1970s.

They are the 8¢ Eisenhower and 13¢ Eagle and Shield stamps, and they exist for several cities.

This new double variety of the Washington stamp is found on stamps from cylinder No. 33333.

The first four cylinder numbers represent the four colors used to print the stamps and the fifth represents the plate used to print the service inscription.



In a recent discovery, the 18¢ Washington service-inscribed coil was found tagged, with dry gum. Tagging on a service-inscribed coil stamp has never occurred.

In the past, coil stamps printed on the Cottrell press were by nature either tagged or precanceled. Because the machine had to be changed for either marking, a tagged precanceled stamp simply couldn't exist.

The 18¢ Washington and Monument stamp was printed on the Bureau of Engraving and Printing's Andreotti press.

Because this is apparently a new printing from this cylinder, the colors vary slightly from the first printings.

In addition, the surface has more snowflaking than past printings.

Linn's will continue to report information concerning this discovery as it is received. ■

AFDCS offers cachet directory

The 1988 directory of currently produced cachets for first-day covers has been released by the American First Day Cover Society and is available to interested collectors.

The directory lists cachet names alphabetically and includes the producer's name, mailing address, and addi-

tional information about methods and frequency of production.

The directory features more than 200 individuals or companies currently offering cacheted covers.

Cachets in the listing are made by various methods including engraved, printed, silk

screen, hand-drawn, hand-painted, woodcut, computer generated, single and multicolored.

For a free copy of the 1988 directory, send a No. 10 stamped, addressed envelope to Bernard Kroll, AFDCS Cachet Information Chairman, Box 52, Kensington, Md. 20895. ■

International Reply Coupons inexpensive but challenging

3.

A highly ignored, but interesting facet of philately is the collecting of International Reply Coupons.

An IRC is a piece of paper that acts as a coupon, ex-

from another country, regardless what country, is exchangeable at the rate of 37¢ each.

When the coupon is purchased, the selling post office is supposed to cancel the circle

of origin, which in this case is the upper circle. The redeeming post office is supposed to cancel the exchanging circle, or in this case the lower circle.

However, as the illustrated

IRC shows small post offices often did not know how to handle the sale of these items and simply sold them without postmarks.

Although I don't know if there is any premium value for this, I'm sure it has caused more than a small amount of confusion at receiving post offices.

To date, there have only been four different styles of IRC designs, and a total number of 24 different issued in the United States.

Since none of these items have a catalog value of more than \$12, they present a very achievable and relatively inexpensive collecting area.

A complete collection can be assembled without major cost.

However, and this is where the fun begins, try finding all the different IRCs available. Since these items are redeemed and destroyed, used IRCs do not exist to my knowledge.

Also, since they were created primarily for business purposes and have never been highly publicized, few collectors or dealers have ever laid much of a stock aside.

IRC's are the perfect example of not having to forfeit the thrill of the chase for the lower price tag. Some IRCs are downright difficult to locate.

Once you have completed your basic collection of IRCs, then it is time to study the postmarks on them. I'm sure there are some fascinating varieties available for the specialist. ■

Refresher Course

By Wayne Youngblood

changeable for postage stamps in any Universal Postal Union member country.

They first were introduced in 1907 as a means of prepayment of postage on a single-rate return letter from any member country of the UPU.

Although the rates and some of the redemption details have changed over the years, IRCs have remained basically unchanged.

Although not all post offices currently stock IRCs, they can be requisitioned much like stamps, and currently cost 80¢ each in the United States.

These coupons can then be enclosed in an international letter, and the recipient can exchange the coupon for surface-rate postage. Philately aside, this is a highly convenient service.

The coupons themselves are printed on UPU watermarked paper and were first issued printed in slate green and gray green. Since 1935, all IRCs have been printed in blue and yellow.

All IRCs have the name of the country of origin printed on the front, and any coupon



This International Reply Coupon, IRC No. 20, was issued in 1971. Its cost at that time was 22¢, and it paid the return rate for an ordinary letter of the first weight step sent by surface mail from any member country of the Universal Postal Union. The back of the coupon has the necessary information printed in German, English, Arabic, Chinese, Spanish and Russian. French and English text appears on the front.

Boy Scouts cover

The Schenectady County Council of the Boy Scouts of America commemorated its 25th annual Klondike Derby/Deep Freeze at Camp Boyhaven, Middle Grove, N.Y., on a cacheted cover Jan. 30-31.

The cover was serviced at the Middle Grove post office and atured the 17¢ Dog Sled coil (Scott 2135) and a 5¢ stamp.

The covers are available for a donation of \$1 with a stamped, addressed envelope from Herb Roes, 1127 Lexington Ave., Schenectady, N.Y. 12309. ■

RPA MEETINGS

APRIL 14

"Stamps & Computers", Part 2. This the second part of the Feb. program. Silent Auction, 5 lot per member, CASH ONLY! Starts 8:00pm.

APRIL 28

"TBA" and Silent Auction. Starts at 8:00pm.

1988 U.S. Stamp Program

Jan. 6, Georgia Statehood. 22¢ commemorative, panes of 50, vertical format, one group of five cylinder numbers. Atlanta, Ga. (Linn's Dec. 7, page 1, and Jan. 4, page 3) Scott 2339, USPS order No. 0430.

Jan. 9, Connecticut Statehood. 22¢ commemorative, panes of 50, vertical format, one group of four cylinder numbers, one number on selvage of adjacent stamp. Hartford, Conn. (Linn's Dec. 21, page 1) Scott 2340, USPS order No. 0431.

Jan. 10, Winter Olympics. 22¢ commemorative, panes of 50, vertical format, four single digits preceded by the letter A, Anchorage, Alaska (Linn's Dec. 28, page 1) Scott 2369, USPS order No. 0432.

Jan. 26, Australia (joint issue). 22¢ commemorative, panes of 40, square format, five single digits, Washington, D.C. 20066. First-day cancellation deadline Feb. 25 (Linn's Dec. 7, page 1, and Jan. 18, page 1) (U.S. version) Scott 2370, USPS order No. 0433.

Feb. 2, James Weldon Johnson. 22¢ commemorative, panes of 50, vertical format, five single digits preceded by the letter A, Nashville, Tenn. 37202. First-day cancellation deadline March 3 (Linn's Dec. 28, page 1) Scott 2371, USPS order No. 0434.

Feb. 5, Cats. Block of four 22¢ commemoratives, panes of 40, horizontal format, five single digits preceded by the letter A, New York, N.Y. 10199. First-day cancellation deadline March 6 (Linn's Jan. 25, page 1) Scott 2372-75, USPS order No. 0435.

Feb. 6, Massachusetts Statehood. 22¢ commemorative, panes of 50, vertical format, one single cylinder digit, Boston, Mass. 02205. First-day cancellation deadline March 7 (Linn's Jan. 4, page 1) Scott 2341, USPS order No. 0436.

Feb. 15, Maryland Statehood. 22¢ commemorative, panes of 50, vertical format, one group of five offset cylinder numbers, one single-digit intaglio number on selvage

of adjacent stamp, Annapolis, Md. 21401. First-day cancellation deadline March 17 (Linn's Jan. 11, page 1) Scott 2342.

Feb. 29, Conestoga Wagon. 3¢ Transportation series, coils of 100, 500 and 3,000, one single digit every 52nd stamp, Conestoga, Pa. 17516. First-day cancellation deadline March 30 (Linn's Jan. 25, page 1) Scott 2253.

Blair House. 14¢ postal card, Washington, D.C. 20066. March 9, Knute Rockne. 22¢ commemorative, panes of 50, vertical format, one group of six offset cylinder numbers, one single-digit intaglio number on selvage of adjacent stamp, Notre Dame, Ind. 46556. First-day cancellation deadline April 8 (Linn's Feb. 22, page 1).

March 29, New Sweden (joint issue). Commemorative, airmail rate, Wilmington, Del. 19850; (U.S. version) May 23, South Carolina Statehood. Commemorative, Columbia, S.C. 29201.

June 13, Francis Ouimet. Commemorative, Brookline, Mass. 02141.

June 21, New Hampshire Statehood. Commemorative, Concord, N.H. 03301.

July, Love. Special stamp, square format, Pasadena, Calif. 91109 (Linn's Jan. 11, page 1).

July 4, Iowa Territorial. Postal card commemorating the sesquicentennial of the Iowa territory, Burlington, Iowa.

July 15, Northwest Territory. Postal card, Marietta, Ohio 45750.

July 26, New York Statehood. Commemorative, Albany, N.Y. 12212.

August, Classic Autos. Commemorative booklet of five different designs, Detroit, Mich. 48233.

August, Summer Olympics. Commemorative.

Sept. 20, Hearst Castle. Commemorative postal card.

San Simeon, Calif. 93452.

Oct. 1, Carousel Animals. Block of four commemorative, Sandusky, Ohio 44870.

Oct. 29, Christmas, contemporary. Special stamp.

Oct. 20, Christmas, traditional. Special stamp, Washington, D.C. 20066.

Oct. 27, Federalist Papers. Commemorative postal card, New York, N.Y. 10199.

Nov. 5, Gen. Hap Arnold. Great Americans series definitive, Gladwyne, Pa. 19035.

1989, Commemoratives for bicentennials of George Washington's inauguration, House of Representatives, the Senate, Supreme Court, North Carolina and drafting of the Bill of Rights. A Great Americans definitive will feature Johns Hopkins.

1990, Luis Munoz Marin, bicentennial of Rhode Island commemorative; Establishment of Boundaries of Nation's Capital commemorative stamp.

1991, Ratification of Bill of Rights postal card.

Undated, Laurel and Hardy commemorative; Dr. Harvey Cushing and Buffalo Bill Cody definitives, Great Americans series; Antarctic explorers block of four.

HOW TO ORDER FIRST DAY COVERS

There are two ways to order first day covers:

1. Buy the stamp (or postal stationery item) at the local post office, affix it to an addressed envelope (postage must make up the first-class rate) and send under cover to Customer-Affixed Envelopes, Postmaster, (Name of City, State and ZIP Code-9991). No remittance is required.

2. The USPS will affix the stamp to submitted addressed envelopes or will provide the postal stationery upon request and receipt of remittance to cover cost of items. Send requests to (Name of issue), Postmaster, (Name of City, State and ZIP Code-9992).

The deadline for submitting envelopes for first-day cancellations is 30 days after the date of issue.

Mail orders for mint stamps, plate number, Mr. ZIP and Copyright blocks, full panes and postal stationery items should be sent to Philatelic Sales Division, Washington, D.C. 20265.

The PSD imposes a \$10 minimum and 50¢ service charge on all mail orders.

Full details of each issue listed in this program are given in news stories in Linn's. Reference to the date and page of such stories is given at the end of each entry.

Tentative Scott, Minkus and United Postal Stationery Society catalog numbers are reported as received.

Plate numbers. All sheet stamps have corner plate numbers, requiring a block of four, unless otherwise stated. Coil numbers should be collected in the center of strips of three or five stamps.

Bulk mail coil stamps. Since late 1985, bulk mail coil stamps have been issued in two versions: untagged, service inscribed versions for bulk mailers and tagged, uninscribed versions for collectors. The Postal Service calls the service-inscribed stamps precancels.

If you collect U.S. new issues, you should own Linn's U.S. stamp yearbooks.

The 1983, 1984, 1985 and 1986 yearbooks are available individually at \$14.95 per softcover copy. Order all four softcover volumes for \$50. Send order and remittance to Linn's U.S. Stamp Yearbook, Box 29, Sidney, Ohio 45365. Ohio residents please add 5.5 percent sales tax.

Linn's guide to philatelic symbols & abbreviations

To help the philatelic newcomer, Linn's presents this list of most frequently used symbols and abbreviations:

★ or * — Mint	F — Fine	OG — Original Gum
□ — Used	FDC — First-Day Cover	Opt. or Ovpt. — Overprint
○ — Piece	FPC — First Flight Cover	P — Poor
■ — Cover	FPO — Fleet Post Office	PB — Plate Block
⊗ — Block	G — Good	PCL — Precancel
ABNC — American Bank Note Co.	GD — Gum Disturbance	Perf — Perforated or Perforation
APC — Army Post Office	GPO — General Post Office	PM or Pmk. — Postmark
APS — American Philatelic Society	HH — Heavily Hinged	PNC — Plate Number Coil
ASDA — American Stamp Dealers' Association	HPO — Highway Post Office	PS3 — Plate Strip of 3
Av. or Avg. — Average	IC — Iron Curtain	PS5 — Plate Strip of 5
BEP — Bureau of Engraving and Printing	Imperf. — Imperforate	RPO — Regummed
BNA — British North America	IRC — International Reply Coupon	RG — Railway Post Office
BOB — Book	LH — Lightly Hinged	S or Sup. — Superb
BPO — British Post Office	LP — Line Pair	SAE — Stamped, Addressed Envelope
Canc. or Ccl. — Canceled or	MB — Minimum Bid	SASE — Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope
	MC — Maltese Cross	Sc — Scott catalog
	MD — Minor Defect(s)	SE — Straight Edge

U.N. stamp program

1988 program

Jan. 29, International Foundation for Agricultural Development — For A World Without Hunger. Six stamps (22¢, 33¢, 35 centimes, 1.40 francs, 4 schilling, 78) Scott New York 519-20; Geneva 162-163; Vienna 78-79. (Linn's Jan. 4, page 12).

Jan. 29, Definitives. Two stamps (3¢, 50¢) Scott New York 521; Geneva 164. (Linn's Jan. 4, page 12).

March 18, Survival of the Forests. Six stamps (25¢, 44¢, 50¢, 1.10fr, 4s, 5s) in sheetlets of 12. (Linn's Feb. 8, page 7).

April 29, International Volunteer Day. Six stamps (25¢, 45¢, 80¢, 90¢, 6s, 7.50s) and a souvenir card.

Sept. 16, Flags. Sixteen stamps (25¢ each).

Dec. 9, Human Rights Day. Three star (25¢, 90¢, 5s) and three souvenir sheets (50¢, 2fr, 11.

the U.S. issues stamps in U.S. Swiss and Austrian currency. U.S. values are used at U.N. Headquarters, New York, N.Y. Swiss values (centim) and Swiss francs) at U.N. Palais des Nations, Geneva, and Austrian values (groschen and schilling) at U.N. Donaupark, Vienna. UNPA levies a service fee for handling covers, and requires additional charges of 50¢ for all mint stamp orders under \$2.

Additional information is available from: U.N. Postal Administration, Box 5900, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y. 10017.

Full details of each issue listed in this program will be given in news stories throughout the pages of *Linn's*. Reference to the date and page of *Linn's* where those stories appeared is given at the end of each entry.

Tentative Scott catalog numbers are reported as received.

SG — Stanley Gibbons catalog
S/S or SS — Souvenir Sheet
UNPA — U.N. Postal Administration
USPS — U.S. Postal Service
UPU — Universal Postal Union
VF — Very Fine
VG — Very Good
VLH — Very Lightly Hinged
w/o — Without
XF — Extra Fine
Yv. — Yvert et Tellier catalog

ME — Mail Early
Mi. — Michel catalog
MI — Marginal Inscription
Mk. or Mink. — Minkus catalog
MNH — Mint, Never Hinged
MPO — Mobile Post Office
MPP — Mailer's Postmark Permit
M/S — Miniature Sheet
MS — Matched Set
NG — No Gum
NH — Never Hinged

CDS — Circular Datestamp
CMS — Complete Matched Set
Comm. — Commemorative
Cpl. — Complete
CTO — Canceled to Order
CV — Catalog Value
Def. — Definitive
DPO — Discontinued Post Office
EFOs — Errors, Freaks and Oddities
Est. — Estimated

Souvenir Cards Guide

Souvenir card issues of the United States Postal Service and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing often are available to collectors for a number of months after the event being commemorated is past.

The following is a listing of cards currently available; the list is presented approximately once a month. Listings will be omitted when cards are sold out or withdrawn from sale; cards marked with a † will be withdrawn from sale in the near future, and will be listed here for the last time.

U.S. Postal Service

Oct. 1, 1984. National Stamp Collecting Month, Oct. 1-31. Card reproduces 20¢ Family Unity commemorative. Cards are \$2 each mint (USPS order No. 0512), or \$2.20 with 20¢ Family Unity stamp and National Stamp Collecting Month pictorial cancel (USPS order No. 5120).

June 13, 1987. CAPEX 87, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, Canadian Vancouver Island Marmot stamps. Cards are \$2 mint (USPS order No. 0517) and \$2.22 with a randomly selected U.S. Wildlife stamp and USPS CAPEX 87 cancel (USPS order No. 5170).

Oct. 16, 1987. HAFNIA 87, Copenhagen, Denmark, Oct. 16-25. Card reproduces the 10¢ Pan American stamp with value omitted and a 1976 Danish semipostal stamp (Scott order No. 0508) and \$2.25 for the canceled version (USPS order No. 5008). The canceled card bears a 22¢ Flag With Fireworks stamp and is canceled with the HAFNIA 87 imprint.

Nov. 13, 1987. MONTE CARLO, Exposition Philatelique, Monaco, Nov. 13-17. Card reproduces U.S. 2287 Monarch butterfly and 2300 Tiger Swallowtail without denominations. Also reproduced is a 340-franc butterfly stamp of Monaco. Cards are \$2 mint (USPS order No. 0513) and \$2.22 with a randomly selected U.S. Wildlife stamp canceled with exposition imprint (USPS order No. 5130).

TO ORDER FROM THE USPS

Cards typically are withdrawn from sale within one year of issuance, unless stocks are depleted sooner. Orders should specify canceled and/or mint cards. There is a service charge of 50¢ per order, plus a \$10 minimum requirement, for mail orders. Check or money order remittance should be sent to: Philatelic Sales Division, U.S. Postal Service, Washington, D.C. 20265. The current Philatelic Catalog will be sent free upon request from the same address.

TO ORDER FROM THE BEP

Cards available by mail or in person at the BEP Visitors Center while available. Check or money order remittance should be sent to: Souvenir Cards, Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Washington, D.C. 20228.

Canada changes date of issue

Canada Post Corp. has moved the release date for its Baseball commemorative from Sept. 9 to Sept. 14 because both Canadian professional baseball teams will have home games on that day.

The 37¢ stamp will honor the 150th anniversary of baseball in Canada.

Canada stamp program

Jan. 5, Booklets. Two stamp pack counter booklets, \$3.70 and \$9.25, containing 10 and 25 37¢ Parliament definitives, respectively. (Linn's Jan. 18, page 22)

Jan. 13, Booklets. Two lunch saver counter booklets, \$3.70 and \$9.25, containing 10 and 25 37¢ Parliament definitives, respectively. (Linn's Jan. 18, page 22)

Jan. 18, Mammals. Three stamps, 43¢, 57¢ and 74¢, showing a lynx, killer whale and walrus. (Linn's Jan. 18, page 22)

Feb. 3, Booklet. A 50¢ vending booklet with one 37¢, two 6¢ and one 1¢ Parliament definitives.

Feb. 12, Calgary Winter Olympics. Four stamps, two 37¢, 43¢ and 74¢, depicting curling, alpine skiing, figure skating and luge. (Linn's Feb. 1, page 7)

Feb. 22, Coll. Roll of 100 37¢ Parliament definitives. (Linn's Jan. 18, page 22)

Feb. 22, Postal stationery. Two 37¢ envelopes, No. 8 and No. 10, and a 74¢ aerogramme. (Linn's Feb. 1, page 14)

March 17, Exploration. Four 37¢ stamps honoring Anthony Henday, George Vancouver, Simon Fraser and John Palliser.

May 28, Masterpieces of Canadian Art. Single 37¢ reproducing *Le Petit Liseur* by Ozias Leduc.

June 1, Wildlife and Habitat Conservation. Pair of 37¢ stamps commemorating birth centenary of Grey Owl and 50th anniversary of Ducks Unlimited.

June 17, Science and Technology. Four 37¢ stamps commemorating the development of kerosene, marquis wheat, electron microscope and cobalt cancer therapy.

July 4, Butterflies. Four 37¢ stamps featuring the Canadian tiger swallowtail, Macoun's Arctic, northern blue and short-tailed swallowtail.

July 22, St. John's, Newfoundland. Single 37¢ marking the town's centennial.

Aug. 5, 4-H Clubs. Single 37¢ celebrating the clubs' 75th anniversary in Canada.

Aug. 19, Les Forges du Saint-Maurice. Single 37¢ marking the 250th anniversary of the firing of the furnace at Les Forges du Saint-Maurice.

Aug. 26, Dogs. Four 37¢ stamps depicting the Canadian Eskimo dog, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia duck-tolling retriever and Tibetan bear dog.

Sept. 9, Baseball. Single 37¢ marking the 150th anniversary of the playing of baseball in Canada.

Oct. 3, Mammals. Seven definitives, 1¢, 2¢, 3¢, 5¢, 6¢, 10¢ and 25¢, showing flying squirrel, porcupine, muskrat, varying hare, red fox, skunk and beaver.

Oct. 27, Christmas. Four stamps, 32¢, 37¢, 43¢ and 74¢, featuring religious icons.

Nov. 1, Bishop Charles Inglis. Single 37¢.

Nov. 18, Frances Ann Hopkins and Angus Walters. Pair of 37¢.

First day covers: Canada levies servicing fees of 20¢ per cover when it affixes stamps to collectors' own FDCs, and 15¢ per cover when stamps are affixed to covers for hand-back first day servicing. Covers must arrive no later than date of issue for servicing. Official first day covers are 20¢ each, plus the value of the stamps affixed. All values are expressed in Canadian currency.

FDC servicing requests, orders for mint stamps and/or official FDCs, and requests for additional information or order forms should be sent to: Philatelic Service, Canada Post, National Philatelic Centre, Antigonish, N.S., Canada B9C 2R8.

Full details of each issue listed in these programs will be given in news stories throughout the pages of *Linn's*. Reference to the date and page of *Linn's* where those stories appeared is given at the end of each entry.

Scott and Minkus catalog numbers are reported as received, and are subject to change.

(Canada's 1987 program was last published in the Dec. 28, 1987, issue of *Linn's*, page 16.)

BEP changes in presses responsible for lack of 22¢ Transportation series coil

By Robert Rabinowitz

When the 18¢ first-class rate was current, the United States Postal Service issued both a Flag coil (Scott 1891) and a Transportation coil, the 18¢ Surrey. When the rate was increased to 20¢, again a Transportation issue, the 20¢ Fire Pumper, accompanied the traditional Flag coil (1895).

The 22¢ rate has been in effect for three years now and there's not been a Transportation series counterpart to the 22¢ Flag coil (2115). And with higher rates in prospect, it's unlikely there will be.

With such great interest in Transportation coils, and the precedent of the immediate past, the reason for the absence of a 22¢ Transportation stamp wasn't at all obvious.

I asked Don McDowell, director of the Stamps Division of the U.S. Postal Service, to clarify the situation.

The basic reason, he said, is that large-volume mailers who use 22¢ coil stamps almost always prefer the U.S. Flag. No one is ever offended by an envelope bearing the Stars and



Why is there no 22¢ Transportation coil? The answer lies with commercial demands and press changes at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

Stripes. Almost any other design has bothered someone at sometime. (The 3.4¢ School Bus stamp especially caused problems.)

When the 18¢ and 20¢ rates were current, the manufacturing capability at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing was such that production of Flag coils had to be supplemented, on the Cottrell presses, with

additional stamps. This was the genesis of the 18¢ Surrey and 20¢ Pumper coils.

When the BEP increased its multicolor B and C press capabilities, the entire requirement for first-class coil stamps could be met with Flags. Thus, there was no need to print a monocolor 22¢ value in the Transportation series.

Actually, McDowell points

out, there are economies in printing only one type of 22¢ coil. Engraving, inventory and distribution savings can readily be quantified.

McDowell is certainly well tuned into the philatelic pulse. Many Linn's readers know that he is the man who is responsible for plate number coil number stamps. He has taken a great interest in the growth of these stamps as a collecting specialty.

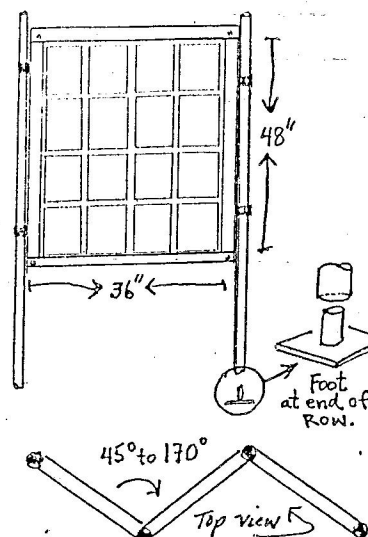
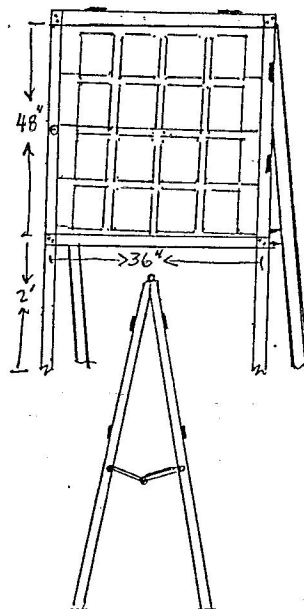
Furthermore, the entire Transportation coil concept originated and was implemented during his reign at the Stamps Division. He is certainly very pleased with the tremendous interest collectors have shown towards the Transportation series.

We'll certainly be seeing more stamps in the series when forthcoming rate increases create the need for new values. ■

THE QUESTION OF NEW FRAMES

At the first February RPA Meeting, the proposed vote on vote - to authorize the RPA Board to disperse \$7000. \$7000.00 for the purpose of purchasing new exhibit frames, was withdrawn at that time. New information on the availability of a second design at a reduced cost per unit was presented. The feeling of the membership present at that meeting wanted more price information and suggested that the RPA Board purchase one of the AMERIPEX easel style frames at a cost of \$133.00 + shipping. At the second February RPA Meeting, members viewed the AMERIPEX easel frame and compared its design to the original Rochester pole frame design (illustrated in the last H&T issue). The membership present did not express preferences for one design over the other. A competing bid from the Rochester pole frame manufacturer was suggested. When a finalized price per unit has been confirmed and a frame design picked, the membership at large will have the opportunity to vote on an authorization of disbursement of RPA funds to purchase NEW EXHIBIT FRAMES in time for ROPEX'89.....

"AMERIPEX easel" style frame is a fixed easel 6' high x 40" long x 18" deep, the plex glass is not removeable, the frame opens on hinges with a screw lock for security, folds up for storage, weight is about twice the "Rochester Pole" style frame.



New Exhibition Frames designed to hold 16 pages on both sides. The frames are free standing at any angle. Each side holds one piece of plexy screwed down thru the frame. The frame height is adjustable.

Revised 'Nassau Street' 'E is for Earth' published by Linn's

7.

A newly revised edition of *Nassau Street* by Herman "Pat" Herst Jr. has just been published by Linn's.

This, the seventh edition of *Nassau Street*, has been newly annotated by the author. This is the first revised edition of the book, which originally was published in 1960.

Nassau Street is one of the stamp hobby's all-time best sellers, says Laurence. Fifty thousand copies, in six editions, have been sold since initial publication. Until the publication of this newly revised, the book had been out of print.

Author Herst has updated the 320-page book with footnotes and has provided a new preface, introduction and conclusion. Collectors familiar with the original work may be surprised to learn the true identities of many of those involved in the stories Herst tells. Herst reveals the true names of many individuals who were given pseudonyms in earlier editions.

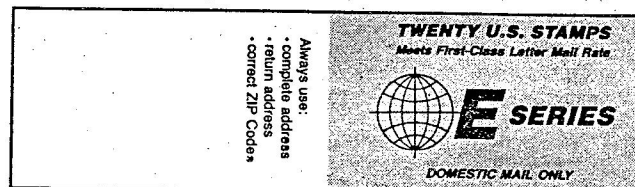
Nassau Street was the center of stamp dealing in the United States until the 1960s when the dealers closed their shops and found more economically suitable locations.

Herst is one of stamp collecting's most prolific writers. His articles appear regularly in the philatelic press — including his monthly Point of View column in *Linn's*.

His books include *Nassau Street*, *Fun and Profit in Stamp Collecting*, *Stories to Collect Stamps By*, *More Stories to Collect Stamps By*, *Please Tell Me, Mr. Herst* and *Forensic Philately*.

In 1987, Linn's acquired the rights to these books — plus other material — written by Herst. *Nassau Street* is the first revised reprint of these works. Others will follow.

Nassau Street is available in either of two editions: a softcover version for \$9.95 or a limited-edition hardcover version for \$20. All orders postpaid from Linn's Stamp News, Box 29, Sidney, Ohio 45365. ■



NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS

The "E" Series stamp was issued to ensure that First-Class rate postage stamps are available to all customers at all times. Nondominated stamps are printed in advance for use during the six-month period required to produce the billions of dominated First-Class rate stamps needed to implement a change in the First-Class mailing rate. The "E" stamp is valid for First-Class domestic mail use only, and may not be used for international mail. The stamp will also be valid for future use and the denomination will be the First-Class mailing rate in effect at the time of issuance.

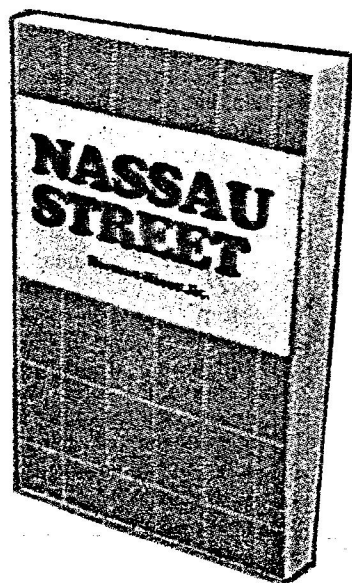
Shown here is the dramatic contrast between the generic Eagle design of the past (upper right) and the colorful "E/Earth" design of the new non-denominated contingency stamp (upper left). The booklet cover for the E stamps explains a bit about this issue.

DANVILLE 28th ANNUAL COIN & STAMP SHOW

SUNDAY APRIL 24th, 10-5pm.
Ellis B. Hyde Elementary School
Main Street, Rt. 63, Danville, NY
40 Coin & Stamp Dealers
FREE ADMISSION

SPECIAL 75th BIRTHDAY CACHETED COVER

In honor of the RPA's 75th Birthday, every RPA member in good standing will receive one special RPA cover as a gift! A special U.S.P.S. cancel has also been designed using March 12, 1988. The design of the cover incorporates all the stamps that have been issued in the Greater Rochester area and shows the RPA logo with the founding date: March 12, 1913. If members would like more special RPA Birthday covers they are priced at \$1.00 @ plus a S.A.S.E. if they are to be returned by mail or see Rick Kase at any of the RPA meetings and or ROPEX'88. You can also purchase 5 unserviced envelopes for \$1.00.....



POSTAGE RATE CHANGES

As recommended by Postal Rate Commission, and expected to take effect in about 2 weeks, subject to approval by board of governors

CATEGORY	WAS	WILL BE
First class letter (first oz.)	22¢	25¢
(additional ozs.)	17¢	20¢
Post card	14¢	15¢
Second class (item rate)	3.1¢-4.9¢	4.3¢-5.9¢
Pound rate	9.1¢	9.8¢
Third class (min. bulk rate)	12.5¢	16.7¢
Pound rate	38¢	48¢
Non-profit rate	8.5¢	8.7¢
Business reply mail (minimum)	7¢	5¢
Express mail (2 lb. overnight)	\$10.75	\$8.75

A First for the National Park Service

By JOHN F. DUNN

SIX paintings in one of the richest art competitions in United States history appear on the first National Park Service stamps. The stamps will be used to validate the \$25 Golden Eagle Pass that entitles holders to free access for one year to all areas of the National Park System and National Wildlife Refuges.

Although issued with considerable fanfare last December, the stamps have not yet received much philatelic attention. As such, they may turn out to be "sleepers" that will be difficult to obtain later this year. This would be similar to the first Hunting Permit stamps that were issued by the Department of Agriculture in the early 1930's. The new park stamps were inspired by the successful 50-year history of duck stamps, which are now issued by the Department of the Interior.

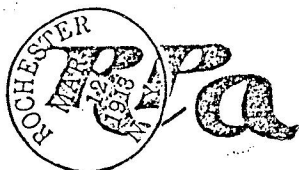
The "Arts for the Parks" program was created by the National Park Academy of the Arts in cooperation with the National Park Foundation. Its purpose was to search for the 100 artists whose paintings best captured the essence of the 300 units of the National Park System. The competition featured a \$100,000 cash prize to the winning artist, Richard Schmid of Evanston, Ill. His "Mountain Stream" depiction of Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado is featured in the lower right of the Golden Eagle Pass. Scenes painted by other



artists show Cape Hatteras National Seashore in North Carolina, Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming, the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D. C., Canyon de Chelly National Monument in Arizona and Glacier National Park in Montana.

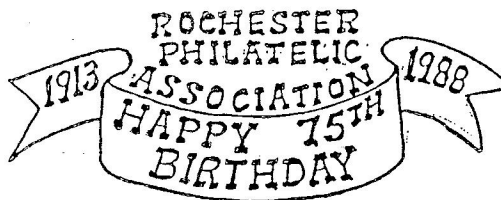
Golden Eagle Passes may be purchased in person or by mail for \$25 from the National Park Service,

United States Forest Service or United States Fish and Wildlife Service headquarters in Washington, D. C. and any of their regional offices, park units or refuge areas that charge entrance fees. The headquarters address is United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Box 37127, Washington, D. C. 20013-7127.



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THE RPA MEETS SECOND & FOURTH THURSDAY OF
EACH MONTH AT ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
VICK B & EAST AVENUE (OPP. GEORGE EASTMAN HOUSE)

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